

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending. The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 4-19 and 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Baker* (6,122,613). The Examiner also objected to Claims 2, 3 and 20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but acknowledged that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the patentable subject matter of Claims 2, 3, 20. Claims 2 and 20 have been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 4, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, and 17 have been amended to depend from independent Claim 2 and Claims 21-23 have been amended to depend from independent Claim 20. Claims 3-18 now depend from Claim 2 and should be deemed allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 2. Claims 21-24 now depend from Claim 20 and should be deemed allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 20.

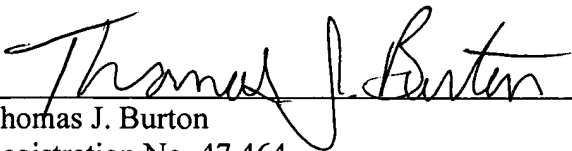
Claims 1 and 19 have been canceled without prejudice so that the allowed claims may proceed to issuance. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation on the canceled claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that Claims 2-18 and 20-24 are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 26, 2004

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